Ban on Import of Colour HV Sub-assemblies

2781 SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have banned imports of all types of colour TV sub-assemblies;

(b) if so what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Department of Electronics has issued any notification to this effect; and

(d) if so, on which date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K R. NARAYANAN): (a) Import of all types of sub-assemblies including Colour TV has been banned.

(b) Import of sub-assemblies for electronic products has been banned to discourage import of end products in the Semi-Knocked Down (SKD) form and promote indepth manufacturing activity in the country.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Commerce has issued notification on 10-7-1987 through which the entry No 610 Appendix 3A (Limited Permissible Items) pertaining to SKD has been deleted and shifted to entry No. 124 Appendix 2B (Restricted Items).

U.S. Request for Mine Sweepers to Clear the Persian Gulf

2782. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the U.S A. has been received by India to send mine sweepers to clear shipping lanes of mines in the Persian Gulf to make them safer for international shipping if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether acceptance of such request would be in tune with the country's policy of neutrality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Prime Minister's visit to China

2783. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent Chinese delegation that came to discuss border question, has invited our Prime Minister to China; if so, what are the details thereof and our response to the same; and

(b) whether the reported acceptance of invitation in principle indicates improvement in relationship between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The Chinese delegation renewed the invitation to Prime Minister to visit China. The invitation was accepted in principle.

(b) It is hoped that this step will lead to an improvement in relations between India and China.

Gadgil Formula

2784. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change the Gadgil formula regarding assistance to States;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN